MAY 10, 1775.

CAPTURE OF TICONDEROGA. "IN THE NAME OF THE GREAT JEHOVAH AND THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS."

One hundred years ago to-day the surrender of Fort Ticonderoga was demanded by Ethan Allen "in the name of the Great Jehovah and the Continental Congress." It was the first strictly offensive operation of the Revolution. Mr. John Adams in his Diary, under date of Jan. 25, 1776, thus describes the spoils of the captured stronghold: "About 10 Gerry called on me, and we rode to Framingham, where we dined. Col. Buckminster, after dinner, showed us the train of artillery brought down from Ticonderoga by Col. Knox. It consists of iron, 9 eighteenpounders, 10 of twelve, 6 of six, 4 of nine, 3 thirteen-inch mortars, I eight-inch howitzer and 1 of six, 1 of eight and a half; brass, 8 three-pounders, I four-pounder, 2 six-pounders, 1 of eighteen and 1 of twenty-four, 1 eight-inch mortar, 1 seven and a half, and 5 cohorn." To understand the importance of this daring enterprise, the military position of Ticonderoga must be understood. It had cost the British £8,000,000, a succession of campaigns, and many lives; and it was "won in ten minutes by a few undisciplined men without the loss of life or limb."

Ticonderega is now a township of Essex County, in the State of New-York. The old fortification was situated on an angle of land forming the western shore of Lake Champlain, or rather what is called South Bay, 12 miles south of the old fort at Crown Point. It was surrounded on three sides by water, and on the north-west side it was well defended by the old French lines, and by several block As early as 1775, the French had here established a fortification commanding the passage of the lake; and to this they gave the name of Carillon (bellchime), a fanciful allusion, it is stated, to the sound of the neighboring falls. This fort thus covered the direct passage from Canada to the provinces of and New-England. Sir William New-York Johnson bad intended in 1755 to reduce it; but a better knowledge of its strength induced him to abandon the enterprise. In the Summer of 1758 an expedition under Gen. Abercrombie attempted the reduction of Fort Carillon, crossing Lake George with 15,000 men, but an assault, July 8, was repulsed with a loss of 2,000 men. The fort was surreadered to Gen. Amberst, July 30, 1759, the French abandotting both this and Crown Point, their occorpation being preliminary to the conquest of Canada by the English and Provincial Army. The captors spared neither pains nor money to strengthen the place, the fort and field-works being stretched over an enlarged area of several miles.

At the beginning of our Revolutionary struggle, Ticonderoga was held by a very slender garrison, while its ordnance and the military stores there gashered offered a tempting prize. It was commanded by Capt. De la Place with a mere handful of soldiers, the total garrisons of Ticonderoga and Crown Point being stated at only 60 men. The place, its importance being considered, seems to have been guarded with singular negligence. One corner of the fort had fallen down, and, worse than all, the powder was swet at the time capture. There has been much difference of opinion and some feeling as to those to whom the credit of suggesting this enterprise is due. The honor has been given to Arnold, who acted under the orders of the Massachusetts Committee of Safety. Ethan Allen is and has always been the prominent historical figure in all narratives of this event. Irving in his "Life of Washington" says that the scheme was set on foot "in the purlieus of the Provincial Legislature of Connecticut." It was not specially sanctioned by that body, but secretly favored, and money lent from the treasury to those engaged in it. A committee was also appointed to accompany the expedition to the frontier, and to exercise over it a degree of superintendence. But even before the affair at Lexington, the expediency of seizing Ficonderoga and Crown Point had been suggested to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety. Benedict Arnold, who was commanding a company of volunteers in the camp before Boston, again called the attention of the Committee of Safety to the subject. Possibly he derived the idea from those who had already discussed it in Connecticut, he having held a captain's commission in the militia of that Province. The Massachusents authorities commissioned him as colonel. authorizing him to raise a force in Western Massachusetts not exceeding 400 men; and he also reeeived some money. But Ethan Allen had been before him, and was already arousing the bold spirits mind of the shopkeeper turned soldier. The detachof "the New-Hampshire Grants" Connecticut seems to have furnished only 16 men; Massachusetts a greater number; but the bulk of the forces came from "the New-Hampshire Grants," i. c.

CHARACTER OF ETHAN ALLEN. Perhaps no figure of the Revolution is more picturesque and characteristic than that of Allen. He was a native of Connecticut, but had been brought up among the Green Mountains, where he was regarded as "a kind of Robin Hood." He had already indulged himself in the pleasures of insurrection. The Grants," a region having the Connecticut River on one side, and Lake Champlain and the Hudson on the other, constituted a disputed terriritory, claimed alike by New-York and New-Hampshire. It had been definitely awarded by the crown to the former province; but New-Hampshire had already made grants of a large number of townships in the territory. The settlers and holders of them resisted the attempts of New-York to disposses them, and the moving spirit of the resistance had been Ethan Allen. Outlawed by the Legistature of New-York, he had in turn set that body at defiance. He was a man of singular force of character, eccentric, fearless, and with all the peculiarities of a pioneer. Washington said "that there was an original something in him that commanded admiration." He had been trained to hardihood and endurance, and in early life had been a mighty and successful hunter, pursuing deer on foot and running them down. The Puritanism of his native State had alienated his heart from all religious faith; he was notorious as a free thinker, and as a bold utterer of his free thought. His " History of His Captivity" is one of the oddest books ever written. Its style has been characterized as "a singular compound of local barbarism, scriptural phrases and oriental wildness; and though unclassic, and sometimes ungrammatical, highly animated and forcible." To his account of the capture of Ticonderoga we shall have occasion to recur.

Thus, while Capt. De la Place was enjoying the quiet of his stronghold, happy in the society of his pretty wife, preparations were going on far away for his dispossession and captivity. The Connecticut and Vermont men, about 270 strong, pushed forward to Castleton, a point near the head of Lake Champlain. Here, by a council of war on the 2d of May, Ethan Allen was placed at the head of the expedition, with James Easton and Seth Warner as second and third in command. Detachments were sent off to Skenesboro' (now Whitehall) with orders to seize all the boats which could be found, and to bring them to Shoreham, opposite Ticonderoga. This seems to have reduced Allen's men to about 80-Allen himself puts it at 83. He had made a forced march from Bennington, and had arrived on the evening of the 9th of May. But at this time Arnold appeared at Castleton with his project of surprising Ticonderoga and Crown Peint, and with his Colonel's commission from the Massachusetts Congress. He brought nothing else. He had burried forward with only one attendant, leaving his few recruits to follow, and had reached Castleton just after the council of war. He found the Green Mountain Boys in no humor for a new commander, and disposed to follow no leader but Allen. He was therefore forced to serve as a volun-CAPTURE OF THE FORT.

It was the evening of the 9th of May. The detachment sent out for boats had failed to return, and a few in which to cross the lake were with diffioulty procured; 83 men were landed near the garrison, and the boats sent back for Warner and the project, and it was determined that the cheriahed

mear guard. But time was precious, and Allen de- anniversary should not pass without some sort of termined to begin operations without waiting for observance. Post Alfred Weed of the Grand Army reënforcements. He did so by making the following of the Republic same forward, and in a plucky card extraordinary speech:

"Friends and Fellow Soldiers: You have for a number of years past been a scourge and terror to arbitrary power. Your valor has been famed abroad, and acknowledged, as appears by the advice and orders to me from the General Assembly of Connecticut, to surprise and take the garrison now be fore us. I now propose to advance before you, and in person conduct you through the wicket gate; for we must this morning either quit our pretensions to valor, or possess ourselves of this fortress in a few minutes; and, inasmuch as it is a desperate attempt, which none but the bravest of men dare undertake I do not urge it on any one, contrary to his will. You that will undertake voluntarily, poise your firelocks!"

Every firelock was poised. Allen ordered his men to face to the right, and himself at the head of the center file, marched them to the wicket-gate aforesaid. The sentry posted there snapped his musket at Allen, who advanced upon him so boldly that the man retreated through the covered way into the parade within the garrison, gave a balloe, and ran under a bomb-proof. The assailing party marched into the fort, and paraded so as to face the two barracks. The poor unsuspecting occupants were asleep. "We gave three huzzas," says Allen, which greatly surprised them." A sentry, who made a pass at one of the American officers, was "ent slightly on the head," the only wound, we believe, received during the transaction. This sentry, becoming more complaisant, showed Allen a pair of stairs leading to the quarters of Capt. De la Place, to which Allen repaired, and ordered the Captain to come out instantly, "or he would sacrifice the whole garrison." This is a summous which has been mitigated and polished to suit the dignity of history. What Allen really did say, according to another account, was, "Come out, white-livered wretch, and surrender;" and this form, garnished plentifully with profanity, we suspect to be the authentic one. However called, out came the bewildered Capt. De la Place, "with his breeches in his hand," and " with the frightened face of his pretty wife peering over his "in the gray of the mornshoulder." So, ing," he was ordered to deliver Fort Ticonderoga instantly. "By what authority?" asked the Captain. Then came the answer which has become historical: "In the name of the Great Jehovah and the Continental Congress." That Congress was to begin its deliberations upon that very morning in far away Philadelphia! The Commander of Ticonderega understood little of the authority of the Continental Congress, and proposed to parley a little longer. But Allen, all the lion roused in him, had no wish for prolonged negotiations. Flourishing his sword above the Captain's head he again de manded the immediate surrender of the garrison; and then De. la Place ordered his men to parade without arms, as he had surrendered. Allen sums up his capture and spoils as follows: "The Commander, Lieut. Feltham, one conductor of artillery, a gunner, two sergeants, and 44 rank and file about 100 pieces of cannon, one 13-inch mortar, and a number of swivels."

MORAL EFFECT OF THE CONQUEST.

And this was the capture of Ticonderoga. Well might Allen afterward write in his narrative: "The sun seemed to rise that morning with superior Inster; and Ticonderoga and its dependencies smiled to its conquerors, who tossed about the flowing bowl, and wished success to Congress and the liberty and freedom of Americans." So was won the fortress so disgracefully evacuated on the 6th of July, 1777, when John Adams wrote: "We shall never be able to defend a post until we shoot a

The garrison captured by Allen was dispatched, prisoners of war, to Hartford, Conn. Crown Point surrendered on the 12th of May without firing gun, Capt. Seth Warner having been sent against it the whole garrison turning out to be a sergeant and 12 men. Here were taken upward of 100 cannon. Subsequent operations were of considerable importance. Arnold very positively insisted on his right to command the captured fortress, being as he said the only officer invested with legal authority. But it was not the habit of Ethan Allen to yield. fell back, as he had a right to do, upon his commission from the Connecticut committee which had accompanied the expedition, and which invested him with the command of the fortress and its dependencies, until orders should be received from the Connectient Legislature, or the Continental Congress. Arnoid could only appeal to the Massachusetts Con- heard of any being found. They say, too, that a lot gress. But new projects soon occupied the restless of gold was thrown overboard in the lake by the mont 'sent to Skenesboro' several batteaux. Allen and Arnold concerted a plan for surprising St. John on the Sorel River, the frontier post of Canada. The vessel was armed with ammunition from the fort; Arnold took command of her; St. John was captured, with a garrison of 12 men; a king's sloop was taken, with two brass six-pounders and 7 men, and four batteaux were also seized. The command of Lakes George

'A war has begun, but I hope, after a full conviction both of our ability and resolution to maintain our rights, Britain will act with necessary wisdom: this I most heartily wish, as I feel a warm affection still for the parent State." The hope was cherished in vain. The war was yet to go on. A few words will narrate the subsequent fortunes of Tieonderoga. It was invested by Burgoyne, as we have stated, in 1777, and evacuated; in September of the same year Gen. Lincoln made an attack upon it, and, though taking Mts. Hope and Defiance. releasing 100 American prisoners, and capturing a large body of the enemy, he did not secure the fort. After the defeat of Burgoyne, the garrison retreates down Lake Champlain. The fort was occupied in 1780, by Gen. Haldeman, with a company of British

and Champlain was secured, and the great highway

to Canada was thrown open. Swift messengers car

ried the good tidings to the Continental Congress.

There was encouragement, resolution, hope in the

intelligence; and there was also the assurance of

material for the prosecution of the siege of Boston.

Warren wrote from the Massachusetts Congress

A SIMPLE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

soldiers. At the conclusion of the war it was aban-

doned, and as a military post has remained so.

SOMETHING IN THE NATURE OF A LARGE PICNIC PARTY-NO POSTPONEMENT FOR A CENTURY-A GLIMPSE OF THE OLD FORT-STRENGTH OF THE WALLS-SOME OF THE TRADITIONS.

[FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIDENE.] TICONDEROGA, N. Y., May 7.-It must be admitted that, so far, New-York's first Centennial celebration promises to be a tame affair, compared with the brilliant demonstrations at Concord and Lexington, or even with that soon to take place in Mecklenburg County, N. C. I find the people hereabouts interested indeed; but, from present appearances, the gathering among the ruins of Fort Ticonderoga, on the one hundredth anniversary of the daring exploit of Ethan Allen and his Green Mountain Boys, will be little more than a large picnic party, with the accompaniments of cannon firing, military parade and impromptu speak-But the programme is still in embryo. Everybody seems disposed to do something toward making the affair a success, and to manifest patriot-ism in any way that may be suggested; but there is little concert of action, and as a consequence a great deal of energy may be wasted on trifles. It will not do, however, to blame the good people of Ticonderoga, for under the same circumstances few communities would for a moment entertain an idea of any celebration whatever. Six weeks ago they were charged to the full with the Centennial spirit, but on the 1st of April a fire laid the heart of their town in ashes, and for a while everything except the destruction thus wrought, and the consideration of plans for regaining their prosperity, was forgotten. The local paper announced with grim humor that the long-expected celebration at the Old Fort would be postponed until the 10th of May, 1975. This ironical announcement with promises of cooperation from Whitehall, Fort Henry, Rutland, and other towns revived the

announced that the celebration would take place under their auspices. The address opened in this

familiar way : Owing to our very disastrons fire, which reduced to ishes almost the entire business portion of our village. shes almost the cutire business portion of our villace tarding business pursuits and making us feel poor, our externial Committee have found it wholly impuse cable and impossible to carry out the original pro-amme proposed to commemorate the capture of the ticable and impossible to carry out the original programme proposed to commemorate the capture of the fort by Ethan Allen. But there has been expressed, at home and abroad, such a desire to commemorate the day, that we, members of Post Alfred Weed, G. A. R., feel it our duty to take the matter in hand, present a simple programme, welcoming all comrades and guests, and assist to the best of our ability in making the exercises of the day pleasing to all who may a tod. Taking into consideration our limited means and the short time in which to make arrangements, we can only prepare tables and ask you to join us in a grand union plenie. All are hereby invited to attend the looth anniversary of the capture of Fort Theonderoga, May 10, 1775, by Ethan Allen and his Green Mountain boys. Following the echo of "the shot that was heard around the world," went out a voice from Theonderoga, just 100 years ago on the day we celebrate, which carried terror to the hearts of the foes of our forefathers. Let us all do honor to the memory of that voice.

The village of Ticonderoga is at a considerable distance from the Fort, and neither village nor Fort is to be confounded with the railroad station named in honor of the latter, and situated half way between the two. The village is reached by stage from the station, and the Fort is more accessible by a short walk from Adkission Junction. The remains of the old fortification are scattered over about 13 acres. They are on a promontory commanding the confluence of Lake George and Lake Champlain, and are visible far away, presenting from some approaches the appearance of as picturesque a ruin as this new country of ours affords.

Notwithstanding the nearness of the Centennial day. I believe I was the only visitor on the ground this morning. While plodding across a plowed field in search of an easy way up the embankment, I met ne of those worthy old farmers who have taken THE TRIBUNE since its first issue, and the mention of its name was all that was necessary to induce him to offer its correspondent a dinner and the services of the "Old Subscriber" as a guide. He, therefore left the plow in its furrow, and told me all he knew about the Fort. Little as this was, it was probably as much as any one else knows, and traditions liberally garnished the facts. Ticonderoga must indeed have been a formidable fortification, and its capture by Ethan Allen in 1775 was as creditable and surprising as its evacuation by another American in 1777 was disgraceful. With such defenses against the ordnance of a hundred years ago 100 men might keep 5,000 at bay. A great deal of the masonry is now turf-covered, but the expered portions exhibit extraordinary thickness and strength; yet the stones are generally small smaller in many instances than those ordi narily used in building the "stone wall" of the farm. The strength seems to lie in great part in the splendid mortar, which despite the storms of a century would to-day put to shame the boasted cements with which such dams as that of ill-fated Williamsburg in Mill River Valley are constructed, and which figure too often in specimen canal work not many miles from here. But while the Fort as it was could be held by a watchful and gallant garrison against almost any odds of old-time artillery, it would not withstand an hour's bombarding from heavy guns of recent pattern planted on the overshadowing hills, across the Lake, called Mount Defiance and Mount Independence.

Tradition tells that the promontory is burrowed in all directions by subterranean passages, and points to the few cavities disclosed by the tumbling walls and sinking earth to prove their existence. It is even said that Allen and his band gained access to the quadrangle through some mysterious, labyryn thine opening, the secret of which was communicated to him by a treacherous Briton. Of course Allen went about his work in no such way, and as to the subterranean rooms and passages, those discovered are evidently intended only for the preservation of ammunition and provisions, and for the safe and convenient movement of the garrison from point to point within the fort while in a state of siege. The site of the parade ground is very plainly marked, and the wails of the officers' quarters, wherein reposed the unfortunate De La Place while Allen was having a bout with the sentinel, are still standing. A guess is even-made as to the very spot on which the American patriot stood when he demanded a surrender "in the name of the Great

Jehovah and the Continental Congress." Some people about here and over in Verment," said my guide, "can't get out of the notion that there is a power of money hid away under these stones, if you could only get at it; but I have never year for a long while and fished for it in a diving bell made out of an old boiler, but he never raised a dollar, and as I haven't heard from him lately I guess he must have given up the idea. There has been searching too, off and on, for a brass cannon which was said to have been sunk by the French to keep it out of the hands of the English, but that hasn't been scooped up either; though they do say that more than one fisherman has run against it by accident. It would be a good thing, we all thought, if we could have resurrected that piece for a centennial salute, and I calculate it would have been about the biggest curiosity on the ground. But it couldn't be had, so the boys have borrowed a big gun from Rutland, and are going to fire that off on Monday morning they'll fire it a hundred times or so-if it don't

The fear suggested in the last clause of these remarks is not likely to be realized, for I caught a glimpse of the Rutland gun at the neighboring railway station, and found it to be a pretty formidable piece of brass, which had evidently done good service in the late war. The arrival of this gun is the only visible evidence that any preparation is making for the celebration. No stand has been erected for the speakers, and no provision made for their audience. If the celebration is to be a success in any respect except the attendance of a large number of pleasure seekers, a great deal of work must be crammed into the next forty-eight hours.

SOUTH CAROLINA'S FIRST REVOLUTION-ARY CENTENNIAL.

THE MEMORIES OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE GERMAN FUSILEERS IN 1775 REVIVED-THE CELEBRATION IN CHARLESTON.

Last Monday, the occasion of Carolina's first Revolutionary Centennial, was a gala day for Charleston. When the echoes of the fight at Concord one hundred years ago reached the shores of Carolina, the Germans of Charleston promptly met, and on the first Monday in May, 1775, the Fusileer Company was organized for the purpose of helping to achieve the independence of their adopted home. At that time the Germans had specia cause to remember affectionately the grace of the existing Government. They were a favored class even among the Carolinians, the favorite provincials of the British Empire. But at that meeting in 1775, they agreed upon the principle-the true principle of Germa faith and fidelity-" to the people with whom you dwell your trust and troth belong," and the company of Ger man Fusileers was formed. Alexander Gillon, their first Captain, was afterward the Commodore of all the fleets of the State, and was the conqueror of the Bermudas. Their First-Lieutenant, Peter Boquet, a planter of the Santee, was the first in America to introduce the water-culture of rice. Their Second-Lieutenant, Michael Kalteissen, was rice. Their Second-Lieutenant, Michael Kaitelssen, was afterward the Wagonmaster-General of South Carolina, and at the time of his death the commandant of Fort Johnson, in Charleston Harbor. Their third, Livingston, was afterward their captain in the field; and the fourth, Gidson Dupont, was from the German settlement of Purysburg, and was the grandsiru of Admiral Dupont, who defeated the German Artillery at Port Royal in 1861. Kaitelssen was the pioneer of German institutions in South Carolina; Boquet and Dupont represented respectively the German settlement of Purysburg on the Savannah, and the settlement of the Santee. Among the other early members were Mintzing, Purysburg on the Savannah, and the sattlement of the Santee. Among the other early members were Mintzing, Sass, Gruber, Horibeck, Burckmyer, Patrick, Muckenfuss, Timrod, Martin, and Strobel. The centennial celebration of the Pusileers on Monday was taken advantage of by the lady friends of the organization to present it with a handsome flag. The parade, which passed off very successfully, was participated in by various military organizations. The members of some of these, as a mark of respect, carried bannerets of palmetto leaves in the muziles of their rifles, while their colors and the swords of the officers were similarly decorated. The celebration was also made the occasion of a rehearsal of the Revolutionary record of the Fusileers, and kind words for the organization from difficus of Charleston.

MAY ANNIVERSARIES.

WORK OF THE PRINCIPAL SOCIETIES. SEMI-CUNTENNIAL OF THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY -REVIEW OF THE LABORS OF THE ORGANIZATION -CELEBRATION OF THE AMERICAN BIBLE

SOCIETY IN CHICAGO-THE BUSINESS MEETING IN THIS CITY-BAPTIST ANNIVERSARIES IN PHILADELPHIA-THE AMERICAN SUNDAY CHOOL UNION AND WHAT IT HAS ACCOMPLISHED-THE SEAMEN'S FRIEND SOCIETY AND ITS EFFORTS-OTHER ANNIVERSARIES. The custom, which at one time was popular among

the different religious denominations, of celebrating the anniversaries of the various societies and associations, is now falling into disuse. The favorite time for such meetings and celebrations was the month of May. It was found that the members did not attend in sufficient numbers to warrant the repetition of invitations that involved a considerable amount of time and labor on the part of those who accepted them. The anniversaries have now become, for the most part, annual meetings for the transaction of business, the election of officers for the coming year, and the consideration of the standing of the several bodies. The old custom has prevailed longest in the Baptist denomination. The anniversaries of the general societies of that body will be celebrated this year from Tuesday until Friday, May 25 to May 28, at Philadelphia, in the First Baptist Church, in the following order: American Baptist Missionary Union, Tuesday morning to Wednesday afternoon; American Baptist Educational Commission, Wednesday evening; American Baptist Home Mission Society, Thursday; American Baptist Publication Society, Friday.

But while, in number, the anniversaries to be celebrated this month will fall below those of some former years, there remains much interest and importance in the commemorative assemblies of religious bodies whose names and labors are known throughout the world, and the review and recital of the achievements of the past year, and the summing up of what has been accomplished since the founding of the societies, commend them selves not alone to the persons connected directly with the organizations, but to the great circle of people who are interested in the earnest efforts made in the cause of religion, or in the cause of charity by the bodies which have anniversary meetings at this season of the year. Herewith are given sum maries of the work and objects of several of the most unportant organizations which meet this month, with explanations of their objects.

THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY. The American Tract Society celebrates its semi-centennial with the anniversary of this year. The event will be appropriately observed. The annual meeting will be held in the Pourth Avenue Presbyterian Church hancellor Crosby's), at 10 a. m., Wednesday, May 12. The Hon, William Strong of the United States Suprem Court, President of the Society, will occupy the chair, and statements will be made of the progress and results of the year and the half century. The death of the Rev. Dr. DeWitt, the Hon, Wm. C. Alexander, Jonathan Sturges, John C. Green, and some others, leaves some vacancies in the Board to be filled by election. Brief addresses will be made by the founders and friends of the Society, and by be made by the founders and friends of the Society, and by delegates from other societies. Of the surviving founders the Ecv. Wm. A. Hallock, D. D., Mosos Allem, and the Rev. Howard Maleoim of Philadelphia, will be present, and the Hon. R. McKee of San Francisco, and others are also expected. Dr. Hallock was the first secretary of the Society, Mr. Allen its first treasurer, and the Rev. Mr. Milcolin was a member of its first board of directors. These men have been others of the Society without interruption for the half century, Dr. Hallock giving it his entire time and strength, and to him much of its success is due.

e foreign delegates are the Rev. Samuel Mand the Rev. James Gillies, from the Religious Tract and ak Society of Eduaburch, both of whom will speak on

The reminiscences of the 50 years, the general discussions of the society's operations, and the addresses of the representatives of kindred institutions, will probably occupy much of Wednesday. The sessions are expected to ast from 10 to 12 a.m., and from 2 to 5 p.m.

On the following sunday evening, at 7 to o'clock, the semicentennial will be turther commemorated by a meeting in the Rev. Dr. Hall's new course, at Fifthave, and Fifty-fifth-st., which will be addressed by the Rev. Win. S. Plumer, b. D., of Commbia, S. C., M. B. Anderson, I.L. D. President of Rochester University; Prof. Geo. Macloskie, Lid. D., of Frinceton College; the Rev. Dr. Manning of London, and the Rev. Dr. Win. Adams of this city. Among the features of the meeting on Westursday will be a display of religious publications in many larguages, the work of the society and of institutions through which it operators in foreign lands. The

Within a few years it has furnished electrotypes of its engravings, used in homes and sanday schools. The Society has also been mindful of the religious wants of the large manigrant population in this country. the preaching in American polipits. These miningrants are supplied, on their passage to this country and on their arrival at Castle Garden, with some reading in their own hanguages, and subsequently at their homes in the distant parts of the country.

An important work has been done upon the 1,176 vesses sailing from this port. Nearly 2,000,000 pages of tracts have been placed upon ontward-bound steamers for suggistants and properly the properly of the prope

An important work has seen done upon the 1.176 vesses sais sailing from this port. Nearly 2.000,000 payes of tracts have been placed upon outward-bound steamers for distribution among passengers are return voyages. At not less than 100 distinct ports in the West Indices. Spanish America, Brazil and Southern Europe, plouts or weil-disposed men of the officers or crews of 829 vessels have distributed for the Society 1,300,000 pages of these daring the year. One of the leaders in the Profestant movement in Spain is stated to have been converted through the reading of a tract in Spanish obtained from an American vessel in Cadiz. It is only within four years that the first Protestant missionary was permanently established upon Mexican soil, yet for twenty years previously Spanish books and tracts were sent by every available vessel from New York to Mexican ports. The particulars of this foreign work in Mexico, South America, and in many of the countries of the Oid World are fully set forth in the Seciety's report, which will also show a year of encouraging prosperity, and will give in detail the nameer of copies of each publication printed since the formation of the Seciety. The figures for some of these are very large. Of the "Swearer's frayer" 1.416,500 copies have been printed; "Come to Jesus," 661,000; "Pictorial Tract Primer," 1.109,300; "What is it to Belleve on Christ," 1.240,000; "Pilgrim's Progress," 519,661; "Happy Voices," 564,900; "Bible Dictionary," 189,000; "Batter's Cail," 443,700, and "Don't Part It OR," 1,177,000.

While the Society distributes granutionally through its coliporteurs it also makes in the aggregate large grants through its own members and directors, and through pastors, missionaries, and the thousands of individual inborers in numble life, who need the help of books, tracts, and papers to make their personal efforts efforts effective. By far the largest proportion of this distribution is made by viale through the viale operation of the Society business and benevolent, as well as remin

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

The American Bible Society this year celebrates its public anniversary in Chicago, May 18. The annual business meeting, the fifty-muth, will take place at the Bible House, in this city, May 13. The annual report states that the total receipts for the fiscal year, ending states that the total receipts for the fiscal year, ending March 31, were \$577,569 80. This shows a large decrease as compared with the returns of former years, the amount being more than \$86,000 less than that reported at the last annual meeting. In round numbers, the donations from churches, societies, and indivinguls were \$92,000, as against \$105,000 the previous year. The legacies amounted to \$127,000-a failing off of \$44,000; and the payments for Bibles fell from \$332,000 to \$298,000. In view of commercial embarrassments and the depression of trade, some such diminution was to be expected; but it is also evident that, in consequence of the pressure of denominational enterprises in the several churches, the interests of the Bible cause, which is common to all, are in danger of being disregarded. Thus far, the Board have been able to meet such applications for books and for funds as come legitimately within their rules; but their ability to make such donations is limited by the gifts which are made to their treasury.

Of the receipts New-York contributed the largest sum, Of the receipts New tork controlled the ingest same \$219,592 55; Ohio stands second with \$50,699 99; Pennsylvania gave \$28,676 97, and New Jersey, \$2,852 65. The receipts from abroad were as follows: England, \$120; Mexico, \$21 87; Sandwich Islands, \$11; South America, \$2,622 38; Turkey, \$7,683 57; West Indies, \$119 68.

south America, \$2,622 35; Turkey, \$7,653 57; West Indies, \$119 68.

The Society has received a letter from one of its agents in China announcing that the publication of the entire Scriptures in the Mandarin language has been completed. The letter states "the whole Bible is now for the first time offered to the Chinese in the general colloquial language of the country. The Old Testament has been translated solely by Dr. S. I. J. Schereschewsky of the American Episcopal Mission. After 15 years of continuous labor he is able, before returning to America for a temporary visit, 60 present to the Christian churches in China this completed work. All Chinese who can read will be able to read this version, and it will enable many to understand the word of God who could comprehend little of its meaning if confined to the translations into the written language of the country."

among the Chinese of the Pacific Coast, and by the Rev Dr. A. E. Dickinson, on operations among the freedmen. This Society was organized in 1832, and has mission-aries in the United States, in Canada and in Mexico. Its work is among all classes of the population-French, Germans, Swedes, Chinese, Indians, and freedmen. Besides its missionary work the Society has a church edifice department, with a fund of \$250,000 to assist poor societies in building churches. The past year has been one of the most successful which the had. Its receipts amount to \$199,048 57, being an in-

had. Its receipts amount to \$199,048 57, being an increase of \$7.5-9 21 over the income of any previous year. The receipts for the church editice fund were over \$20,000. The debt of the Society has been reduced \$40,000, leaving only a small sum still to be paid. Some 338 missionaries were camployed in 41 States and Territories, who preached 27,277 sermons: 2,100 persons were baptized and 92 churches were organized. Since the organization of the Society it has employed 6,927 missionaries, who have baptized 76,294 converts. The work among the freedmen is advancing. The Society has established seven schools in the South for the training of colored preachers and pous teachers. Valuable property, embracing 30 acres of land mas been bought at Nashvile, and additions to the training institute, which is included in the purchase, are to be made at acost of \$50,000 to \$60,000. An effort is making to raise \$500,000 to be expended upon grounds, buildings, and endowments for these schools. Satisfactory progress is made by the missionaries among the Clinese and the Indians. The question is suggested in the forthcoming annual report—from which these facts have been taken—whether the Society shall continue its work among these peoples in their own languages, organizing them into separate churches, or whether the Indian and Chinese couverts shall be instructed in English and gathered into churches with the whites.

iftes. The Baptist Union, which conducts missions in foreign lands, holds its anniversary meeting May 25-26. The year lins not been a prosperous one, financially, to the Union. The total receipts for the liscal year cuding March 31 were \$241,970-64. The schedule of appropriations for the current expenses of the year was \$267,148-56, leaving a deficit of \$25,177-92. Add to this the deficit of the previous year \$27,778-80, and the balance against the treasury on the first day of April 1875, was \$2,956-72. The ordinary receipts of the previous year were \$241,287-97, which sum was increased by the special effort of the so-called "Thank-offerings" to \$251,550-91. To meet the deficiency, it is proposed to raise \$3,600 in special donations for the Paris chapet fund, which together with the \$12,000 already secured for the fund, will relieve the treasury to the extent of \$26,000.

AMERICAN SUNDAY-SCHOOL UNION.

The American Sunday-school Union this year for the first time in its history, will hold its anniversary meeting in New-York. Its headquarters are in Philadelphia, where its annual meetings have always been held. The Union was organized in 1824, on a platform broad enough to hold the entire Christian church. Its principal objects age to organize a Sunday-school wherever there is sufficient population, and to provide moral and religious publications for the children. Its work is to open Bible schools in destitute districts, to aid needy and, especially, new schools by grants of books, to seek the improvement of existing schools, to elevate the standard of Bible instruction, and to encourage better modes of teaching. The operations of the Society are divided into two departments, the inissionary and the publication. The publication department is under the supervision of a committee of tweive, composed of mambers of different denominations. It is supported by profits and sales. It has published over 2,000 works and issues two periodicals—The Sunday-School World for teachers, and The child's World for children. The department has depositories in this city, in Boston, thesay, and St. Louis. The report of the Committee of Publications for the year ending Dec. 31, 1874, states that during that year 20 books were published, of which 14 were original, and 6 reprints. An analysis of the general catalogue exhibits the following results: Books of biography, history, education, travels, customs, &c., about 8-90; methious, or partly facilities books, all adopted by the Committee as useful and dostrable, about 1,064.

The missionary department is distinct from the book. especially, new schools by grants of books, to

The missionary department is distinct from the book The missionary department is distinct from the book department, and is supported solely by donations and bequests. It sends our missionaries to organize sunday-schools wherever there is population enough. Districts are formed of from five to ten counties each. In each of these a missionary is placed, who canvasses his field systematically, gathering the children into Sunday-schools and ferming adults into Eible classes. Ordinarily a missionary will organize from 30 to 50 schools in a year-emisting the services of from 200 to 300 teachers, and gathering in from 1,200 to 2,000 children. He supplies the schools with libraries, and frequentic visits and corresponds with them. Nine-teaths of the missionary outlay of the Society are for the support of these agents. During 44 years of the existence of the Society it mis organized 59,057 schools, with 302,717 teachers, and 2,504,836 scholars. Assistance has been extended to other schools in 90,024 class, to a number of scholars exceeding five millions. The \$2,000,000, and the value of books circulated in the same period is over \$6,000,000. It is estimated that, as the fruit of the missionary work of the Society, 3,000 clurches have been organized. A summary of results of the work of past year shows:

Schools organized.
Teachers in them.
Schools visited and aided.
Teachers in them.
Schools visited and aided.
Schools visited and aided.
Blues and Testaments distributed.

AMERICAN SEAMEN'S FRIEND SOCIETY.

The 47th annual meeting of the American Seamen's Friend Society will be held May 10, at the Sailors' Home, at No. 190 Cherry-st. The annual report will be presented, and trustees elected to fill existing vacancies. The Rev. Dr. John Hall will preach the annual sermon to his new church, at Fifth-ave, and Fiftytifth-st., some time during the present month. Society was organized in 1828, and incorporated in 1833. Its objects are: "1. To improve the social, moral and religious condition of seamen; to protect them from imposition and fraud; to prevent them from becoming a

position and fraud; to prevent them from becoming a curse to one another and the world; to rescue them from sin and its consequences, and to save their souls. 2. To saccitiy contineree, an interest and a power in the earth, second only to religion itself, and make it everywhere serve as the handmand of Christianity."

To accomposible their ends, it employs chaplains and maintains Bethels in the principal ports of the world, having, in addition to those in the United States, stations in China, Japan, the Sandwich Islands, Chili, Brazil, France, Italy, Beightm, Demmark, Norway and Sweden. During the past year, 48 chaplains, missionaries, Bible and track-distributors, colporteurs and others, have been added (wholly or in part) from the treasury of the Society, and have sought the welfare of seamen in preaching the gospel to them in Bethels and on slip-board, visiting them in the forecastle and in hospitals, circulating the Soriptures, &c., and in every possible way befreending them with reference to their temporal and spiritual good. Liburaries composed of instructive books are sent out on vessels.

Another feature of the work of this Society is the establishment of sallors' homes, reading rooms, savings banks, and the distribution of Eibles, tracts, &c. The libraries are provided by gifts largely from Sunday-schools, while many are individual contributions. Last year the Countess of Aberdeen advanced to the Society sufficient funds to provide 100 libraries, which have been in circulation the past year. During the year just ended the Society has sent out 893 libraries, 454 of which were new; the others were resimped. The libraries average about forty volumes each, and some are gone two or three years before being returned. The number of libraries are not find the work was begun seventeen years ago, is 5,233, containing at least 225,000 volumes, and accessible, in their frequent reshipments, to 213,000 men. The whole number of libraries shipped in the United States Navy is \$46, accessible at different times to 96,102 men. They are simply lent, no charge being made to the sallors. The trustees in their annual report say that the past year has been one of great success. At the Sallors' Home, in Cherry-st., there have been 2,113 arrivals of senines, of whom 257 shipped without advance wages. The money deposited with the superintendent was \$21,625; of this amount \$3,050 was sent to savings banks, and \$9,662 forwarded to friends and relatives. Since the establishment of the Home in 1842 it has had \$7,540 boarders, and it is estimated that the amount of money it has saved to scamen and their friends exceeds \$1,500,000. The receipts of the Society essels.

Another feature of the work of this Society is the 1842 it has made yield observed to seamen and their friends exceeds \$1,500,000. The receipts of the Society for the year ending May 1, 1875, were \$66,759 43; expenditures, \$64,288 02. The auxiliary societies have raised \$11,352 60. The President of the Society is Richard P. Buck; Secretary, the Rev. Dr. Samuel H. Hall.

THE HOWARD MISSION. The Howard Mission, at No. 40 New-Bowery,

olds its fourteenth anniversary meeting Thursday even ing. May 13, at the Academy of Music. The programme includes singing by the children and addresses by Stewart I. Woodford and the Rev. J. F. Elder. The Howard Mission, of which A. S. Hatch, the banker, is President, cares for destitute children, feeding, clothing, educating, and training them for usefulness in life. It also helps poor and worthy parents in their homes, and provides for and comforts the sick. Only the truly needy and worthy are aided. It gives temporary refuge to outcast children and provides Christian homes for them. The Mission is not sectarian, and it aids children of all nationalities. The means employed are: "1. Religious services, devotional meetings, classes for religious instruction, and an efficient sabbath-school. 2. A day school for the educa-tion of children who from various causes would not be in the public schools. A wholesome dinner is provided for the pupils daily, and such clothing is supplied to them as may be found needful to render their attendance at school, in decency and comfort, possible. 3. Mis-sionary visitation, and discriminating and judicious re-lief in well authenticated cases of groups want and suftief in well authenticated cases of genuine want and suf-About 40 children are cared for in the Mission House

About 40 children are cared for in the Mission House. The society gives them temporary shelter, preparatory to sending them to bomes in the country. The society gives them temporary retuge is also provided for work. A temporary retuge is also provided for women who need shelter, or who are waiting to work. Nearly 400 children attend the day and 3abbath-schools, to whom with other needy ones 100,000 meals are given annually. The receipts in money during the past year were \$20,499.96; disbursements, \$20,278.63. Besides the revenue there have been large donations of provisions, clothing, &c.

THE TESTIMONY IN REBUTTAL NEARLY CLOSED-MR. CARPENTER NOT TO BE A WITNESS. The consultation of the counsel of Mr. Tilton on Saturday relative to the introduction of Mrs. Victoria C. Woodhuil's testimony resulted finally in a decision not to summon her. Notice to this effect was accordingly sent to her on Saturday evening. and neither she nor her husband, Col. Blood, will be called by the plaintiff. This, it is understood, will greatly abridge the re. buttal testimony of the plaintiff, and his case may be

uel A. Crozer, the Rev. T. Edwin Brown, on the work THE TILTON-BEECHER TRIAL.

finally closed to-day.

MRS. WOODHULL NOT TO TESTIFY.

It was not the purpose of the plaintiff on Saturday to call Francis B. Carpenter, who it had been heretofore thought would be an important witness for Mr. Tilton. It is alleged by the friends of Mr. Beecher that Mr. Carpenter had written letters at various times to gentlemen now friendly to the defendant, in which he explained that the charge was one of improper solicitations, and that this charge was strenuously denied by Mr. Beecher. It is alleged, too, that he explained the letters of Mr. Beecher on this basis, and not as having been in reply to a charge of actual crime with Mrs. Tilton. Mr. Carpenter's letters are in the possession of the defendant, and are so widely at variance with the present theory of the plaintiff that the counsel for Mr. Tilton concluded not to call Mr. Carpenter at all.

A HEARING FOR BOTH SIDES. AN EARNEST PLEA FOR MR. BEECHER-A CALL FOR

CHARITY AND NOT MAUDLIN SENTIMENT. To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: There is a charity, or rather a sentimental leniency toward crime and criminals which often usurps that name, which, as a conservator of the public morals, the press has no right to exercise, while it should never lose sight of true charity, a very different and far more robust trait. Evidently, charity should be manifested whenever floating rumors affecting the reputation of individuals, and originating in discreditable sources begin to circulate, like a poisonous miasma, in the air. A charitable press will ignore such scandalous rumors, and in consequence they will stop where they begin and the public mind be left untainted. No greater harm can be done to a community than to have the press seize with avidity on such vile reports, dwelling on the grossest details, and by uttering covert innuendoes and sneers, and persistently publishing half-truths, keeping out of sight the corresponding half which would change the whole aspect of the case, produce a false impression, and thus lead the public mind to believe the worst before if has any tangible evidence on which to base an opinion. Unfortunately, there is a low element in human nature which relishes such insinuations and gladly accepts them as truths, so that while it is scarcely less than diabolical to cater to this morbid taste, the paper which is willing thus to demean itself will be pretty sure of a certain kind of popularity, especially if it has a shrewd, bright way of putting things. Common sense and justice, leaving charity out of the question, demand that a man be considered nocent till he is proved guilty, and sneers and rumors are surely not proof. When positive evidence is given, charity will then put as favorable a construction on it as truth and justice will permit.

There never was a fairer field for the exercise of the spirit of true charity than in Mr. Beecher's case. Here was a man whose life for forty years had been lying like an open book before the world, read as few lives ever are of all men; a man whose superabundant abilities and energies had all been consecrated to patriotism and philanthropy, and who had done more probably than any other living man to exalt purity, integrity, and righteous, ness, and to lift up the weak and operased of every color, set, and race, a man beloved and reverenced by the best men of this and other lands. Was he to be consid-ered a debaucher, a fair, a perjurent of all men, surely Henry Ward Beecher should have been believed to be in-moent till proved grafty.

Most of the leading papers of the country took an hon-cratic course in regard to hum, while concepting that

such a man might fall, they have maintained that a life-long reputation, based on noble living, ought to count for something and inspire couldence and a generous inter-pretation of his words and acts. Still, there were other papers which, from the bostiming, scenned to gloat over every detail of the scandal, selecting the most vulgar items and ingentously perversing them into evidence of Mr. Beecher's cuit, rolling them under their own tongues as a toothsorie morse, and presenting them to their renders as the choicest tability indeed, had they been paid agents of Mr. Tilton, some of these papers could scarcely have worked more indefatigably than they have in the same lines he selects for his personal operations. If Mr. Beecher be proved guilty of the crime Mr. Tilton charges him with then he will be no ordinary villain, and it will be no time for namby pands years ment. If he is guilty he is doubly-lived and steeped in crime. If Henry ward Beecher is a Bertine, he is also a lar, a perjure, a biasphemer, who through every hour rite should not pollate our most non youngs, or long, initiater at God's attar. It is a faise estimate of chartly hat would make it a clouk for baseness. A mighty votewould be hushed, but if the man has a grilly heart within tim it should be hushed, for its power lay in its purity. We nightly say. Mr. Editor, that while the case is in regress, discussions of Mr. Eccher's guilt or innovence. of in his entire innecens Is not that in ords Northampton, April 29, 1875.

A CONVICTION SORROWFULLY FORMED. To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: The first 100 cents I ever earned were expended in a yearly subscription to the weekly edition of the newspaper "founded by Horace Greeley." Although nearly a quarter of a century has passed since then, a constant reading of that vast treasure-house of information has kept in view its great principle of free discussion. In the great question of the day, "Is Henry Ward Beecher a pure man I" I claim the right of a single word, so generously offered to all.

Mr. Beecher has made his statement before a chosen ommittee, and recently under solemn onth has sought to explain away the terrible words of the letters, which with one exception he confesses to have written. They must remain as his great accusers. We know little good of Theodore Tilton. The world cares nothing for Mr. Moulton. It would willingly obliterate the name of both to save such a fame as that of Henry Ward Beecher. His explanation of that terrible letter, called the "letter of contrition," does not satisfy the writer. Innocence or guilt revolves around this center. Who was the author of those impressive expressions ! Daniel Webster and that those impressive expressions! Duniel Webster and that the "Sermon on the Mount," could not be a human production; that alone convinced him that Christ must be divine. That letter never was the production of Francis D. Moulton. The author of that document would be able to save Mr. Willeson's "Life of Christ" from ascending like a kite. If it was Mr. Moulton, then Mr. Moulton that take the place of Mr. Beecher. The latter says that it is in no sense his composition. He wrote it not. He never read it. His own language is, that when this writing was finished, Mr. Moulton asked him to put his name to it, and he said, "How can I sign it! It is not my letter. I cannot sign what I did not write." There were only a few lines. Why stand there expostuating with Mr. Moulton long enough to have read six such letters as that, and not read it. He remembers the details. He does not forget that he refused, hesitated, expostulated, and finally signed it, and read it not! It cannot be, I cannot divest myself of the belief that he not only read it; but, alias! they were his words, his expressions, the profound and terrific expression of an agonizing effort for salvation from awful destruction. However the skies may be occasionally obscured, the light will be let in at the soul. The truth must prevail, even though the "greatest preacher and greatest man of the age" go down. The world will not believe that Henry Ward Beecher wrote those letters and did not know the meaning of the English language. He is no common man. Admit his extravagant use of words; grant that he boils over with hyperbole and metaphor; yet his purpose, his aim, is always direct. To use his own words, "from the bark to the core," and metaphor; yet his purpose, his aim, is always direct. To use his own words, "it must be core," and metaphor; yet his purpose, his aim, is always direct. To use his own words, "from the bark to the core," and "from the core to the outer circumference," no man ever could fail to understand what was the underlying idea or purpose of his the" Sermon on the Mount," could not be a human pro-

A LADY'S LOSSES BY MAIL.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: You can easily imagine that the postal law allowing parcels under four pounds in weight to be sent through the mails is a positive blessing to Northern residents of Southern States; but why the privilege should be so uncomfortably qualified is one of the things I want to know. Since last December, according to my best recollection, I have missed several articles from five or six parcels posted from New-York City to this point and again, in one instance, the whole parcel disappeared bodily from the mail-bag. The mischief happens between New-York and Jacksonville, Fla., as the mails are dis-New-York and Jacksonville, Fla., as the mails are dis-tributed on the train before reaching the latter place. The thief, or let us say the emotional kleptomaniae, does not permit himself to be hampered or bound by pairty considerations of the fitness of things, if he is a man, or if a woman, she has followers, for articles adapted to the pair trousers, one fan, one white waistoost, seven pands tambrie, dressing sacque pattern, embreidery, one quire paper, taken from a box containing tive quipse; six gen-ticulent's handkerchiefs, and two ladies' handkerchiefs. I feel that I have a well-grown arrievance, and that I am I feel that I have a well-grown grievance, and that I am justified in making my moan. Hence these tears.

Ramshackie Hut, Tocoi, Fla., May 4, 1875.